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REQUEST FOR CONTINUING EXAMINATION

Dear Sir,

This is a response to the Final Office Action with a mailing date of May 21, 2003, and a statutorily shortened response due date of August 21, 2003. A Request for Extension of Time accompanies this paper in the same submittal. An RCE fee in conformance with 37 CFR 1.17(e) accompanies this paper in the same submittal. Please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks in response to the Office Action before taking further action on the merits of the above-referenced application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.